

Media | Release

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Construction contracts awarded by Christchurch Airport

Christchurch International Airport (CIAL) has announced the two companies who have won new construction contracts at the airport.

"We are pleased to announce that the construction of the Regional Lounge complex has been awarded to Mainzeal Property and Construction," said CIAL Chief Executive Jim Boulton, "and the redevelopment of the International Retail area has gone to Hawkins Construction."

The single level Regional Lounge complex will service primarily Air New Zealand turbo prop aircraft and their passengers, and will be built on the south side of the new integrated terminal, which is presently under construction. It will be located on the site of Hangar no. 2, which has been completely dismantled. Construction of the Regional Lounge will start this week and is due to be finished by January 2011, at the same time as the first stage of the main terminal building.

The construction of the Regional Lounge is a joint development between CIAL and Air New Zealand, with building costs expected to be around \$20 million. On completion, the lounge will be owned and operated by CIAL.

"This is a major initiative which reinforces Air New Zealand's commitment to the region and our customers, which will enable us to pursue additional growth opportunities," says Air New Zealand Deputy CEO Norm Thompson.

This year there will also be a major redevelopment of the International Retail area of the airport, which will include new Arrivals and Departures Duty Free stores. Construction will commence in February and completion is expected by the end of the year. "This is another multi-million dollar project," said Jim Boulton. "We're excited that this part of the terminal will have new international retail facilities, including new food and beverage and new general retail."

Jim Boulton said these two projects, in addition to the ongoing construction of the main terminal, would make 2010 a busy year for airport and construction staff. "The logistics are complex, but we're pleased with the progress we're making. We're looking forward to having a lot of new facilities ready in time for the Rugby World Cup in 2011."

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For further comment, please contact:

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Christchurch International Airport – New Zealand’s Tourism Gateway

Christchurch International Airport welcomed nearly 6 million passengers in 2008/2009, ranking as New Zealand’s second largest airport. The Airport occupies a unique position economically, as the South Island’s busiest and most strategic air connection to the world’s trade and tourism markets. In addition, the airport plays an important role as the South Island’s major domestic hub servicing all New Zealanders, enabling passengers to connect to a full spectrum of destinations throughout New Zealand. Christchurch International Airport is a major driver of the regional Canterbury economy, generating airport precinct related jobs for nearly 5000 people.

Christchurch International Airport is owned and operated by Christchurch International Airport Limited (CIAL). CIAL was established as a limited liability company in 1988, and ownership of CIAL is now shared by Christchurch City Holdings Limited with 75% and the New Zealand Government with 25%. The company’s vision is to be recognised as New Zealand’s leading tourist gateway.

Christchurch International Airport is a carbon neutral company and has received carboNZero certification from Landcare Research following a detailed measurement and analysis process. CIAL is the first airport company in the Southern Hemisphere to attain certified carbon neutral status and is the second carbon neutral certified airport company in the world.

Visit christchurchairport.co.nz for more information.